LYNCHING OF HOMESTEADERS

Archer Pioneer Tells of Hanging of Mitchell and Ketcham.

WERE INNOCENT OF ANY CRIME

He Says They Were Killed Because They Attempted to Make Homes on Land Illegally Held by Olive Gang.

ARCHER, Neb., Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: In your issue of February 14 is an article from Callaway, Neb., relating to the lynching and burning of Mitchell and Ketchem in 1877. Your correspondent says that the facts were furnished by a man who was on the ground after the tragedy. Now this man told more than he knew, or he knew more than he told. In fact, his talk sounds very much like the Olive gang at the time of their cowardly lynching of these two honest homesteaders. He either was there and saw the murder, or he don't know half as much about it as us old homesteaders.

I was a homesteader in Merrick county at the time and was well acquainted with Mitchell, and have often seen Ketchem. Old man Mitchell was an honest man, and neither of them ever touched Olive's cattle. The fact is, Olive never lost any cattle. All that Mitchell and Ketchem did was to get over the Olive "dead line" and take up a homestead, as they were entitled to do, but Olive was trying to hold several townships of land that belonged to the government, and he had succeeded in keeping every homesteader away until Mitchell and Ketchem staked out their homesteads in 1877 and started to make for themselves a home on the Nebraska prairie.

Shooting of Clint Olive.

To drive Mitchell and Ketchem out of the country Olive started the report that they were stealing his cattle, and sent his brother, Clint Olive, over to notify them to leave the country. Clint Olive rode up to their "shack," and as they came out the door Clint Olive shot Ketchem through the right arm. With his right arm shattered Ketchem drew his gun with his left hand and shot Olive through the body, from which he died a short time after the shooting. Mitchell and Ketchem hitched up their team and drove down through to Merrick county, and sent word to the sheriffs who were looking for them that they would surrender if they would see that they got a fair trial, and I know, and so does every old settler who lived in this vicinity at the time, that if they had had a fair trial they would never have been convicted. They said that if they were not turned over to the Olive gang they would come and give themselves up, as they could prove that Ketchem had shot Clint Olive in self-defense.

Lynching at Lexington.

The night before they surrendered they took supper with my nearest neighbor. They surrendered to the sheriff of Merrick county and were put on the train and taken to Plum Creek (now Lexington) where the Olive gang were waiting and they were taken from the train and hanged and burnt. They are a number of people still living in Merrick, who seen the bodies after they were brought back to Central City, and anyone who seen the burnt bodies knows that they did not get afire the way the dreamer at Callaway says. And again the bodies were not buried out there or at Kearney as he says, but the bodies were brought to Central City where Mitchell was buried and the body of Ketchem was taken back to his old home in Iowa.

Shortly after Ketchem's 19-year-old brother came out from Iowa, went up to Plum Creek and arrested Olive and turned him over to the proper authorities, he was tried and given a life sentence, but he had plenty of money and with the aid of it and Judge Lake he managed to get out. He moved to Colorado and was shortly shot to death by his hired man. I hope you will print this as you did the false report from Callaway, for it pains us old settlers to read reports making heros of the Olive gang, when we know that Mitchell and Ketchem were honest homesteaders, and the Olive gang were no better than a band of outlaws.

E. M. M'KENDRY.

DIVORCED WOMAN WILLS ESTATE TO FORMER SPOUSE

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Richard Cleve has been appointed administrator of the estate of his divorced wife, Mary A. Cleve, who left a considerable real and personal property, and all of it goes to him. Mr. Cleve was married twice and both times divorced, but the first wife always retained her love for him and he was at her bedside during her last illness and followed the body to its last resting place, although they had been separated for a number of years.

Miss Nellie Snyder Dies Very Suddenly

OAKDALE, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Miss Nellie Snyder died here late last evening at the home of her parents. Death came quite suddenly and unexpectedly. For a day she had been slightly indisposed, but nothing of a serious nature it was thought. Mr. Snyder was in the country at the time of his daughter's death, the remaining members of the family, Mrs. Snyder, son and daughter were attending a social function for the evening and returning about midnight found Miss Nellie dead.

OMAHA MAN FILES SUIT INVOLVING MANY THOUSANDS

CENTRAL CITY, Neb., Feb. 24.—Special.)—A suit involving the sum of $35,000 has been filed in the district court this week. The plaintiff to the action is Bert M. Hall of Omaha and the defendant is Henning Halling of Oakland, Neb. The plaintiff claims that he owned 280 acres of land two miles north of Chapman. He valued this land at $35,000 and there was a mortgage of $11,300 on the place. The defendant owned 450 shares of stock in the Lindahl Mercantile company company of Oakland, there being 600 shares in all, of a value of $50 each. The plaintiff claims that the defendant represented that the mercantile company was free from debt except for some slight amount, which he claimed would be paid before any deal was made. Relying on the representations of the defendant the plaintiff claims he exchanged his land subject to the mortgage for the stock in the mercantile company and a dividend of $1,250 due on the 450 shares. He claims that after he made the exchange he found that the stock would not invoice $30,000, as represented, but only $27,157.34, and that previous to the transaction defendant had promised to make up any deficiency in cash. He also claims that the company was not free from debt, as represented, but had outstanding indebtedness to an amount of nearly the $10,000. As a result the plaintiff claims that he has received in the neighborhood of $16,000 less in the deal than it was represented he would receive. Therefore, he asks that a receiver in trust be appointed for the land and that the amount of which he has thus been deprived be paid him out of the land. The suit is an interesting one. The plaintiff is represented by Judge J. J. Sullivan of Omaha.

MERRICK COUNTY TRYING FOR EXPERIMENTAL FARM

CENTRAL CITY, Feb. 24.—(Special.)—S. C. Bassett of Gibbon and Secretary Odell of the Rural Life commission were here last evening and presented to the members of the Commercial club looking toward the maintaining of an agricultural expert here to superintend the work on ten or twelve farms for experiment and demonstration purposes. The plan was to detail an expert from the state school for the work here. It is planned to offer his services free to ten or twelve farmers who would agree to turn over the direction of their farms or a portion of their farms to him for a reason, so that the best methods could be employed, and the results demonstrated to the neighboring farmers. Those attending the meeting seemed to approve the plan heartily, and a committee was appointed to take the matter in charge and arrange for subsequent meetings. The committee consists of G. H. Gray, Frank Campbell, William McCullough, Ruben Wolcott, Theodore Osterman and Earl Badger. It would require in the neighborhood of $3,000 to pay an expert for the season, and meet his expenses, and it is proposed to raise this money by county and township appropriations, and also by private subscription. If the project goes through it is quite likely that Prof. Culver of the agricultural department of the college will be secured for the expert, as he is recognized by the agricultural experts as being well fitted for the position.

MEN WHO THREW EGGS AT EVANGELIST PAY FINES

KEARNEY, Neb., Feb. 23.—(Special.)—This morning the members of the egging party that assaulted Prof. Bert A. Thonnes, gospel singer and brother of Madame Geraldine Farrar at Elm Creek Sunday night appeared before Justice of the Peace W. C. Drury of Kearney, acknowledged their guilt and were fined $1 each and costs.

This ends a case in which the evangelist seemed to get too personal and the resentment held by the young men of the town took the form of eggs. Three men, Clyde Mastin, E. H. Waters and E. C. Krewson were with the preacher when assailed, during which members of the opposing group came to blows and struggles when George Scott, a gray-haired man and passerby was thrown to the sidewalk and bones in his shoulder were broken. He is reported in a serious condition by witnesses who attended the trial.

Those paying fines were Ray Thompson, Jay Burritt, Ray Kaufman, John Bolan, William Bolan, Walter Snook, P. M. Cook, John Luddington, Thomas Fitzgerald and Arthur Stalling. It is understood that four more members of the gang will be fined.

Tecumseh Bank Elects Officers.

TECUMSEH, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—At the regular yearly meeting of the Tecumseh National bank A. W. Buffum was re-elected president. He has refused to serve and has resigned as a member of the board of directors. T. J. Pierson, former vice persidnt, has been elected president. Judge S. P. Davidson has resigned as a member of the board of directors, for the reason that a bank officer cannot serve as a presidential elector, and the judge is a candidate for such an honor. O. A. Corbin and C. E. Smith have been elected members of the directorate, and Theodore Smith has been elected vice president of th bank.

David City to Have Paved Streets.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Negotiations are being made that will put David City's streets in proper condition for paving. The question that is most under consideration now is whether the streets, which at present are rather wide, shall remain the same as they now are or whether a parkway shall be left either at the sides or in the center of the street. The second idea seems to be well thought of by many.

Gibbon Beet Grower Wins Prize.

GIBBON, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—W. H. Winchester of Gibbon received his check for $113.34 from the American Beet Sugar company, same being his third of the $100 prize for the largest tonnage of sugar beets in a field of five acres or over, he having tied with two other parties for first money.

Key to the Situation—Bee Advertising

MUST TURN OVER THE PLANT

Specific Performance Decree Entered Against Water Company.

THUMMEL APPOINTED MASTER

Many Matters Decided—City Must Pay Up in Full Before the Deed to the Property is to Be Made.

A decree in which is ordered specific performance in turning the plant of the Omaha Water company over to the city, was filed for record in the office of the clerk of the federal district court late yesterday morning. This decree is made by Judge W. H. Munger in accordance with the mandate of the federal circuit court of appeals which ruled that the plant must be turned over to the city.

George H. Thummel, former federal circuit clerk, is appointed at the request of attorneys for both sides, as special master in the case. His duties will be to look over the books of the company and to settle disputes on minor points.

It is ordered that any stock of materials that is on hand at the time of accounting be invoiced and appraised and added to or deducted from the purchase price of the plant. This point will be settled by Mr. Thummel if the attorneys for the Water board and the company can not come to an agreement.

Keeps Money Earned.

The water company is entitled to retain cash bills, and accounts receivable, earned by it, but the master is to have free access to the books to determine these accounts and bills. It is decreed that Mr. Thummel shall settle the question whether or not the water company shall be remunerated for counsel fees and legal expenses incident to the suit for hydrant rental. The city is ordered to pay for the plant immediately upon taking possession, and that it shall pay also for improvements and extensions that have been made upon the plant and not included in the original appraisement.

To Give a Deed.

It is ordered that after carefully going over the case, Special Master Thummel report to the court, and that within ten days after the report is approved the water company deliver to clerk of court a deed of conveyance to the city of Omaha of the entire system of water works and all of its rights and contracts with the cities of South Omaha, Florence, Dundee and the East Omaha Realty company.

It is not adjudged, however, that the city assumes any obligations entered into by the water company with private consumers or municipalities since the date the city elected to purchase the plant. This question is left as though the decree had not been made. The water company is also entitled to retain possession of the plant until it is entirely paid for, according to the decree, and the city must pay all costs of the controversy.

NEBRASKA CITY WILL HAVE BASE BALL TEAM

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—That Nebraska City is to have a base ball team is a foregone conclusion, because the matter has been taken up by a number of hustlers and yesterday afternoon they raised over $1,000 and expect to increase it to $1,500 before they start to organize. It is intended that this is to be one of the teams of a league to be formed in southeastern Nebraska, taking in Aurora, Falls City, Humboldt, Beatrice, and one or two other towns. That the team will have plenty of backing was evinced by the manner in which the fans all over the city came forward and volunteered to put up the money to make it a go. The money is all to be collected and placed in a bank before the season opens, so there will be no chance of a failure, and if more is needed it can be secured.

MRS. EDITH PETRING DIES IN OMAHA HOSPITAL

NEBRASKA CITY, Feb. 24.—The body of Mrs. Edith Hancock Petring, who died from a cancer in an Omaha hospital, was brought to this city last evening and taken to her home, west of the city, where it will lie in state until Sunday, when the funeral will take place. It was while going to see her last September that her husband, F. W. Petring, with his daughter and grandaughter, were killed in a wreck on the Missouri Pacific at Fort Crook by a head-on collision. The deceased was born in England thirty-nine years ago, but when quite young came to this country with her parents and settled near Unadilla, where she met and married her husband. Two children were born to this union, Ralph and Esther, both of whom survive her, and she is survived by four stepchildren, John, George, Alfred, Florence and Catherine. The deceased was a highly esteemed woman and loved by all. The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. J. A. Koser, pastor of the Lutheran church.

BURGLARS OPERATING IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

FAIRBURY, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Burglars made an attempt to enter the shoe store of H. H. Todt on the south side of the square and after gaining admission the intruders were frightened away by the police. No valaubles were secured.

It is thought that a gang is working in the vicinity of Fairbury. This week a sack containing twelve pairs of new shoes were discovered under a culvert, having been washed out by the melting snow. It is also thought that the recent $40,000 fire at Diller was also the result of a burglary, the thieves having set fire to the store after looting it. A few weeks ago the lumber yard at Powell in this county was also burned and indications point to incendiary origin.

Sheriff Ed Hughes of this county and Fairbury police are making diligent efforts to locate the wrongdoers.

Nebraskans Win Honors at Grinnell.

GRINNELL, Ia., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Nebraska seems as well able to produce scholars as "Cornhuskers." Two of the four seniors of Grinnell college, whose election into the Phi Beta Kappa society was announced yesterday, are from Nebraska. They are Miss Lucy Peck of Franklin and Mr. M. Clinton Harrison of Scribner. Both of them are graduates of Franklin academy at Franklin.

IOWA AND NEBRASKA PATENTS

Names of Successful Applicants Who Have Been Granted Letters at Washington.

Official list of letters patent of invention issued from the United States patent office at Washington, D. C., to inhabitants of Iowa and Nebraska for the week ending February 24, 1912, as reported from the office of Willard Eddy, solicitor of patents and counselor in patent causes, 1530 City National Bank building, Omaha:

Frederick C. Althen of Anamosa, Ia., for bias-band maker.

Launcelot W. Andrews of Davenport, Ia., for producing oxalates.

Alonza C. Huttman and F. P. Gable of Grandview, Ia., for recoil neutralizer.

James B. Fulton of Marne, Ia., for double stickle for mowers and harvesters.

John Jackson of Clinton, Ia., for insect killer.

Grandville F. Jones of Exeter, Neb., for paper-holder.

Harry F. Jones of Davenport, Ia., for vending machine.

John A. Kilpatrick of Fort Dodge, Ia., for mail carrier's box.

William H. Laude of Monticello, Ia., for sod cutter.

Lyman S. Lewis of Elkport, Ia., for plow.

Isaac L. Mitchell of Cedar Rapids, Ia., for oil burner attachment for stoves.

William H. Morris of Carroll, Neb., for butt removing attachment for corn harvesters.

Walenty Nalepka of South Omaha, for pit car brake.

James M. Pierce of Des Moines for delivering attachment for printing presses.

Samuel P. Sanders of Aurora, Neb., for spring wheel.

Lee C. Sharp of Plattsmouth, Neb., for can body forming and seaming machine.

John R. Vorhees of Cedar Falls and V. V. Sper of Waterloo township, Blackhawk county, Iowa, for shifting and locking device for clash gearing.

Alva Williamson of Atlantic, Ia., for sounding horn.

SPY IN GERMAN FORTRESS ALMOST MAKES GOOD ESCAPE

ESSEN, Germany, Feb. 24.—Lieutenant Vivian S. Brandon of the British Royal navy, who was sentenced in December, 1910, to four years detention in the Fortress of Wesel on a charge of espionage, last night almost succeeded in escaping.

He filed through the bars outside the window of his room, climbed down a rope to the ground and reached the outer wall of the fortress, but was there seen and rearrested by a sentinel. His comrade, Captain Frederick Trench of the British royal marines, who was sentenced to a similar term in a fortress at Glatis was reported to have attempted suicide by hanging on January 14.

Denial is made by the prison keeper that Lieutenant Brandon attempted to escape.

NEBRASKA RATES INVOLVED IN HEARING BY EXAMINER

HELENA, Mont., Feb. 24.—V. I. Vaseault, special examiner for the Interstate Commerce commission, held three hearings here today on freight rates, involving the rate on grape fruit from Florida to Helena, the rate on cherries from Nebraska to Helena and the seed grain rate from Minneapolis to Vallier, in the northern part of the state.

Pirates Play Creighton.

The fast Pirate basket ball flingers of the Tri-City league will meet the Creighton university quintet at the Omaha "Y" gymnasium this evening in what is expected to be a hard-fought game, as the two fives are about evenly matched. So far this season the Pirates have kept up an unbroken streak and have annexed eleven out of twelve games played in the league series.

To the Voters of South Omaha

A few days ago I announced my firm conviction that an appeal to the court would nullify the attempt of certain officials and interested parties to continue in office the present city administration by legislative enactment without the approval of the people. That appeal was made, the court has ordered an election and the people of this city who believe in self-government, and who are opposed to government by the legislature, will rejoice in the result. The court's decree compelling an election and the primaries being held under that order Tuesday, February 27. The shortness of time makes it impossible for me to see each voter personally, so I am taking this method of appealing for support at the primaries for the nomination for mayor on the democratic ticket.

Two matters of paramount importance may be designated as public welfare and municipal business.

So far as the first is concerned I promise, if nominated and elected, to administer the affairs of the office in such a manner that no law-respecting, self-respecting citizen will ever have occasion to regret having supported me.

I believe in law enforcement. I believe oppressive and obnoxious laws can soonest be repealed by enforcement, and that until repealed enforcement is the only method of preventing disrespect for law and general lawlessness.

So far as municipal business is concerned, I think I can say without boasting that I am as familiar with the needs of the city, the charter provisions governing it and the methods of transacting business as any citizen of South Omaha; my lifelong residence and experience in official positions qualify me to say this.

My record as mayor will, I think, demonstrate the fact that under my administration more public building, street paving and grading, sidewalk construction and sewer and park provisions were procured than in any other two years of the city's history, while the taxes upon your property were lowered instead of raised. In fact more public improvements were made and contracted for during my two years than in all the fourteen years prior thereto and not one contract made or assessment levied has ever been successfully attacked in court.

I earnestly solicit the support of all desirous of a clean, business administration. Respectfully,

THOMAS HOCTOR.

To the Democratic Voters of So. Omaha

I Desire to Announce My Candidacy For the Office of City Clerk.

I have lived in South Omaha for the last 18 years and have been educated in the public schools of this city. I feel that the vocation I have followed for the last 8 years has specially fitted me to perform the duties of this office. In this contest I will be opposed by Pat Barrett and Frank Cood, the present incumbent. I respectfully solicit your support.

HENRY F. RYAN.

The DOCTOR'S ADVICE

by Dr. Lewis Baker

The questions answered below are general in character, the symptoms or diseases are given and the answers will apply to any case of similar nature.

Those wishing further advice free, may address Dr. Lewis Baker, College Bldg., College-Ellwood Sts., Dayton, O., enclosing self-addressed stamped envelope for reply. Full name and address must be given, but only initials or fictitious name will be used in my answers. The prescriptions can be filled at any well-stocked drug store. Any druggist can order of wholesaler.

"Elizabeth" writes, "Kindly publish again the prescription for stomach disorders and constipation. I have misplaced the letter giving the ingredients."

Answer: Go to your druggist and ask for tablets tripepsine and take according to directions, and you will soon be entirely cured of all stomach trouble and constipation. This is the best treatment known for all kinds of stomach trouble.

* * *

"Anna" says: "I am nervous, hysterical and very thin due to overwork. What can I take to regain my original vitality?"

Answer: You will gradually regain your original strength by using syrup of hypophosphites comp. 5 ozs.; tincture cadomene comp. 1 oz. Mix and take a teaspoonful before meals. This is the best system tonic that I know of.

* * *

"Mr. Jack" writes: "I am greatly embarrassed on account of my weight. In the last two years I have gained flesh so rapidly that I am getting very uncomfortable. Please tell me what to do."

Answer: Do not get the ordinary pills and tablets for obesity, but use this safe, harmless and quick acting medicine. Get them separately so as to avoid any substitutes: Aromatic elixir, 5 ozs.; and glycol arbolene, 1 oz. Mix by shaking well and take a teaspoonful after each meal for the first three days and after that take two teaspoonfuls as long as your case may require. After the first week or two you should lose a pound a day.

* * *

"Edna T." writes: "I wish you would recommend a remedy for kidney and liver trouble. I have dark spots before my eyes, dizzy spells and also twinges of rheumatism."

Answer: I have received many letters from people who have used the following remedy and been cured of all trouble such as you mention. Get three grain sulphate tablets (not sulphur tablets), and take according to directions given. They are sold at any well stocked drug store and are thoroughly reliable.

* * *

"Louise"—Get the following prescription filled and give 10 to 15 drops in water before meals to cure your little boy of bed-wetting. Comp. fluid balmwort, 1 oz.; tincture rhusaromatic, 2 drams, and tincture cubeba, 1 dram. This should be given one hour before meals.

* * *

"Helen" writes: "My nostrils and throat are badly affected with catarrh and my breath is very offensive. I also suffer a great deal with headache and pain in my eyes. Can anything be done to help me?"

Answer: Antiseptic Vilane powder has been prescribed with great success and the number of letters received daily from the hundreds of grateful people who have been cured of catarrh would indicate its curative value. Get from the druggist a two ounce original package of Vilane powder, mix a level teaspoonful with an ounce of vaseline or lard and apply well up in the nostrils twice a day. Also use the following in connection with the above to thoroughly cleanse the nostrils: Use one-half teaspoonful of the Vilane powder to a pint of warm water, snuff the water through the nostrils several times a day and your catarrh should soon be cured. To prevent a return this should be used occasionally.

* * *

"Tom M." writes: "I am only twenty years old, but my hair is falling out very rapidly. My scalp is covered with dandruff. What can I get to cure it?"

Answer: To cure dandruff and stop falling hair use plain yellow mirpol. This you can get at any well stocked drug store in 4 oz. jars, and if used regularly it will cure any scalp disease and prevent premature baldness. Many people have reported a cure by using two or three applications.

* * *

"J. W." writes: "I should be the happiest woman in the world if I could find a true remedy to help me gain flesh. I have regular features, but I am so thin that I am homely. Can you give me a prescription?"

Answer: I receive daily so many gratifying letters from users of three grain hypo-nuclane tablets. These little tablets can be bought at any up-to-date drug store in sealed packages. Full directions are given. I advise that you begin taking them at once and continue their use for several months and you will gain flesh. Many people report that a two months' treatment will increase their weight from 15 to 30 pounds. Hypo-Nuclane tablets will also improve your complexion, giving you rosy cheeks and lips and an increased sparkle to the eyes.

* * *

"American Girl" writes, "For some years I have been troubled with rheumatism. I have tried almost every "cure," but they did not help me."

Answer: The best known prescription for the cure of rheumatism is: Iodide of potassium, 1 drams; sodium salicylate, 4 drams; wine of colchicum, ½ oz.; comp. essence cardiol, 1 oz.; comp. fluid balmwort, 1 oz., and syrup sarsaparilla, 5 ozs. Mix by shaking well in a bottle and take a teaspoonful at meal time and at bed time, and you will not only be relieved, but cured, if you continue its use for a short time.

* * *

"Frank S." writes: "I would like to have the formula for a reliable cough cure as I have a very severe cough which is becoming very annoying."

Answer: The best remedy that I know of for coughs and colds is made by mixing a 2½ oz. bottle of concentrated essence menthol-laxene with a home-made sugar syrup. You will find full directions on the bottle how to make and use. This will make a full pint of the finest and cheapest cough medicine obtainable.

Best Sport News in The Bee